



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY REFRESHER INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

Mission Statement:

The intent of annual fireline safety refresher training is to focus line-going personnel on operations and decision-making issues related to fireline and all-hazard incident safety. Refresher training will ensure firefighters have information regarding current initiatives and the upcoming fire season. Refresher training is provided in order to recognize and mitigate risk, maintain safe practices, and reduce accidents and near misses.

The 2015 Fire Refresher was built for firefighters, by firefighters.

<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/>



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Notes to Instructor

Introduction

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training is required for all personnel participating in wildland fire who may be subject to assignments on the fireline. Check specific agency policy at the WFSTAR website to determine if this training package meets refresher training requirements of all the attendees.

Expectations

*****THIS IS NOT A PLUG AND PLAY PRODUCT. INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION AND STUDENT INTERACTION IS REQUIRED*****

Instructors should facilitate a quality refresher that engages all students no matter their ICS qualification or firefighting experience. The success of this program is dependent on your ability to stimulate meaningful discussion during group exercises. Classes with a wide array of experiences and qualifications can provide an excellent opportunity for the less experienced to be mentored and for the more experienced to rethink old habits.

Instructor Prerequisites

Lead instructors must be at least Single Resource Boss (SRB) qualified, and unit instructors must be at least Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) qualified.

Adjunct instructors may be utilized to provide limited instruction in specialized knowledge and skills at the discretion of the lead instructor. They must be experienced, proficient and knowledgeable of current issues in their field of expertise.

All instructors will need the knowledge and skills to utilize current educational technology, as it relates to the WFSTAR website. Examples would be streaming and downloading interactive videos as well as the use of apps and mobile devices.



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Equipment and Materials

A list of equipment and other material required for course presentation includes:

- Media player
- Instructor Guide, Student Workbooks from WFSTAR [website](#)
- *Incident Response Pocket Guide* one for each student
- Sign-in sheet/training documentation form
- Flip chart(s) with paper and marking pens
- Download modules from WFSTAR website
- Optional: *New Generation Fire Shelter* video, NFES #2711
- Optional: *The New Generation Fire Shelter* booklet, NFES #2710

Administration

The instructor is responsible for identifying necessary equipment, materials, and supplies. The instructor is also responsible for recording attendance and assuring that evaluations are completed and returned:

ON THE WEB: http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/contact_comments.html

BY MAIL: NWCG Training Development

Attn. Scott Anderson

3833 S. Development Avenue

Boise, ID 83705

BY FAX: (208) 387-5378

BY E-MAIL: s80ander@blm.gov

If all modules are utilized, the length of this program is approximately four hours, depending on time allowed for exercises. Additional time will be needed for the fire shelter deployment practice.

Encourage the students to explore the new [Tech Tools](#) web page on the WFSTAR website. Tech tools purpose is to provide a place for firefighters to get technology that helps them do their job safer and more efficiently.



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Module – 2014 Fire Season Summary

Overview

This module will summarize the 2014 fire season and provide some season statistics. A discussion of local highlights, lessons learned and the upcoming fire season will be led by local experts.

Target Audience: Wildland Firefighters

Time: Video 8 minutes

Exercise: Students will be briefed by local experts on highlights, lessons learned, and the outlook for the upcoming fire season



Instructor Tasks



- Introduce the goal listed above
- Play the video, discuss local highlights and the upcoming fire season
- Have the students use the QR code to evaluate the module



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2014 FATALITIES, ENTRAPMENTS AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS

As Reported by the Risk Management Committee

TYPE	NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	FATALITIES
Entrapment/Burnover	5	0
Engines, Dozers, ATVs, and Vehicles	11	0
Burn Related Injuries	15	0
Medical Emergency	16	7
Hazard Trees	7	0
Driving	1	1
Aviation	2	2

2014 Wildland Fire Statistics

63,312 Wildfires

3,595,613 Acres

5-Year Average

10-Year Average

65,006 Fires

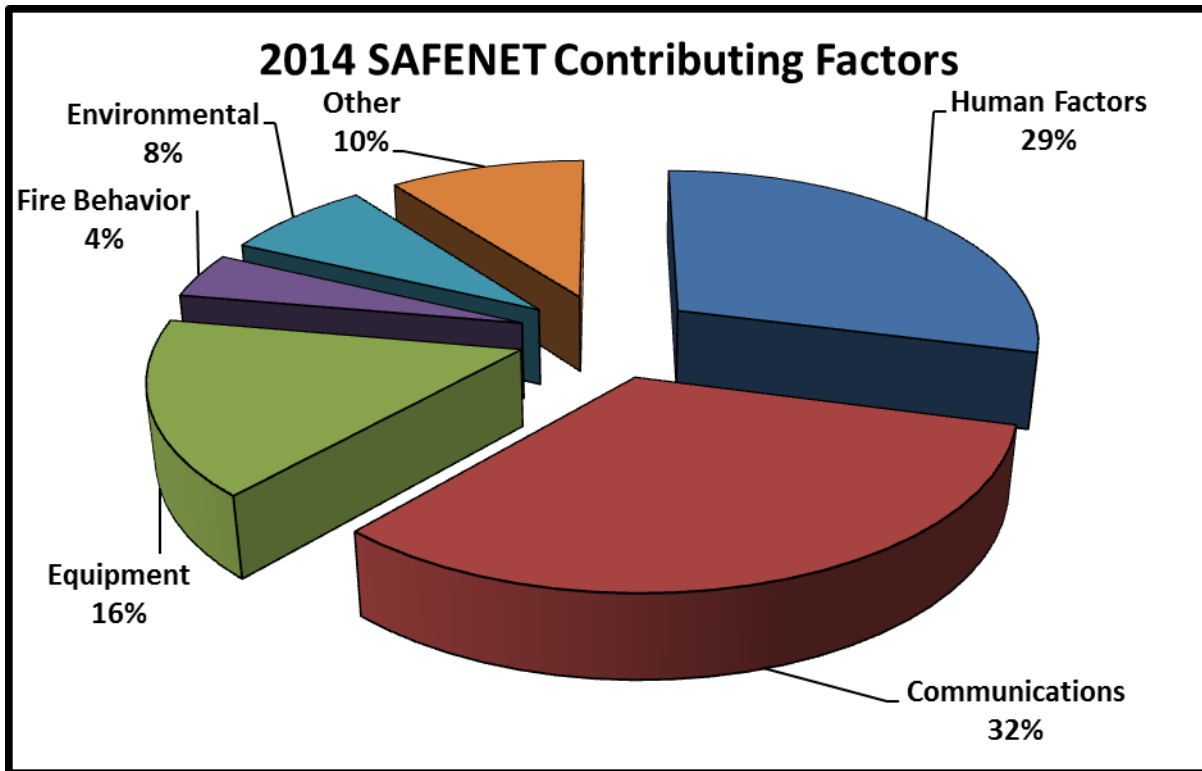
72,702 Fires

5,874,718 Acres

7,325,182 Acres



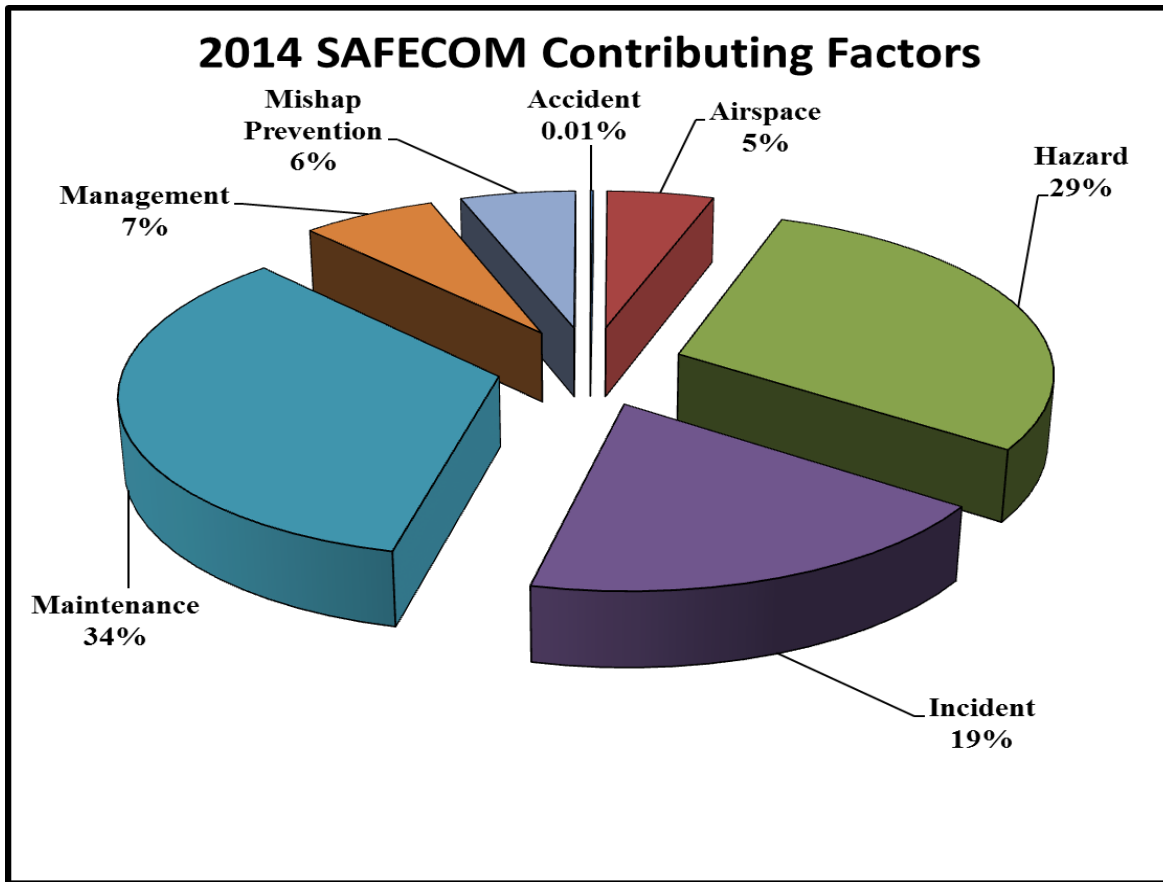
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The SAFENET system is intended solely as a tool for wildland firefighters and fire management. Its objective is to provide a forum for firefighters to voice their safety concerns, facilitate problem solving, and to aid in identifying trends as they relate to firefighter safety. There were 80 SAFENETS submitted in 2014. To submit a SAFENET: <http://safenet.nifc.gov/safenet.nsf/SAFEPOST?OpenPage>



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SAFECOMs are for reporting any condition, observation, act, maintenance problem, or circumstance with personnel or the aircraft that has the potential to cause an aviation-related mishap. The SAFECOM system is not intended for initiating punitive actions. Submitting a SAFECOM is not a substitute for "on-the-spot" correction(s) to a safety concern. It is a tool used to identify, document, track and correct safety related issues. A SAFECOM does not replace the requirement for initiating an accident or incident report. There were 710 SAFECOM Reports in 2014.

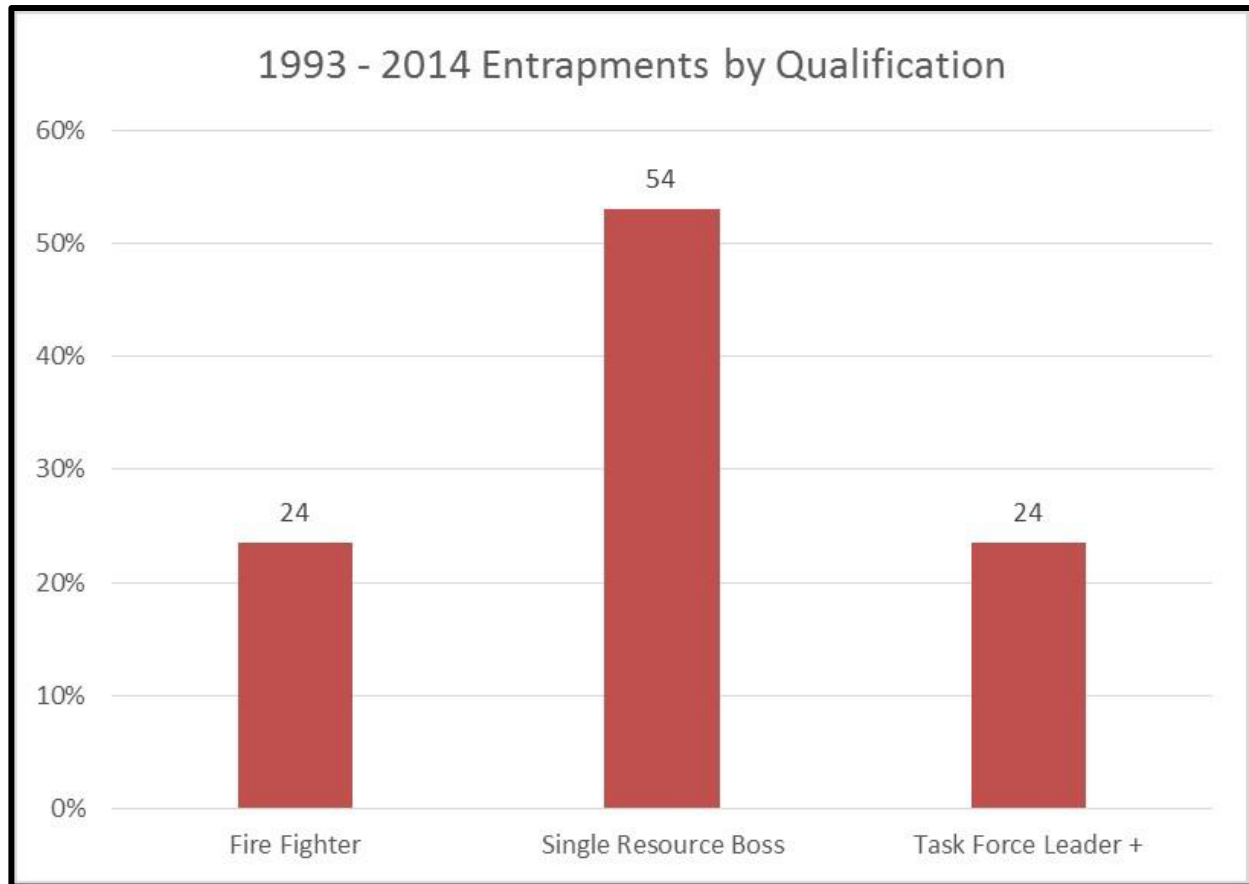
To Submit a SAFECOM:

<https://www.safecom.gov/entry.asp>

Explore the new [Tech Tools](#) web page on the WFSTAR website. Tech Tools purpose is to provide a place for firefighters to get technology that helps them do their job safer and more efficiently.



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2014 Lessons Learned Center Incident Review Summary

Have you ever heard that the most dangerous portions of your fire career are the first 3 years and after 15 years? The logic behind this notion is at first you “*don’t know what you don’t know*” and then you eventually think “*you’ve seen it all*”. Although this notion intuitively appeals to us, there is no proof that it is true. Reports do not consistently contain information about “years of service”, but they usually include positions of those involved. Qualifications do not necessarily correlate with years of service, but they do reflect a certain level of experience.

The data used for this graph consisted of the **HIGHEST** position qualification present at each entrapment. A total of 102 different entrapment incidents were used.

Some might interpret this as exactly the *opposite* of the notion mentioned above (first 3 – after 15). One could argue we are most vulnerable during the *middle* part of our careers—the time one spends as a single resource boss. Maybe this has more to do with the types of assignments we engage in and nothing at all to do with our experience or perspective. **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**



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Instructor Notes



Module Evaluation QR code

